

TITLE 23

Health and Safety

CHAPTER 23-27.3

State Building Code

ARTICLE 23-27.3-100.0

Administration and Enforcement

SECTION 23-27.3-107.5

§ 23-27.3-107.5 Local building official – Qualifications – Powers and duties. – The building official, to be eligible for appointment, shall have had at least five (5) years experience in construction, design, or supervision. The building official shall be generally informed on the quality and strength of building materials, on the accepted requirements of building construction, on good practice in fire prevention, on the accepted requirements regarding light and ventilation, on the accepted requirements for safe exit facilities, and on other items of equipment essential for the safety, comfort, and convenience of occupants, and shall be certified under the provisions of § 23-27.3-107.6, and shall possess an international code council (ICC) certification as a certified building official (CBO), except that the qualifications outlined in this section shall not be required in the case of a building official holding a current state certification prior to July 1, 2010. The building official shall pass upon any question relative to the mode, manner of construction, or materials to be used in the erection or alteration of buildings or structures. The building official shall require compliance with the provisions of the state building code of all rules lawfully adopted and promulgated thereunder, and of laws relating to construction, alteration, repair, removal, demolition, and integral equipment, and location, use, occupancy, and maintenance of buildings and structures, except as may be otherwise provided for. The building official or his or her assistant shall have the right of entry to buildings or structures, for the proper performance of his or her duties during normal business hours, except that in the case of an emergency the building official shall have the right of entry at any time, if the entry is necessary in the interest of public safety.

History of Section.

(P.L. 1976, ch. 256, § 1; P.L. 1981, ch. 236, §§ 3, 4; P.L. 1985, ch. 162, § 1; P.L. 2010, ch. 303, § 1.)

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Administration and Enforcement

SECTION 23-27.3-107.1.1

§ 23-27.3-107.1.1 Local inspector. – (a) The appropriate local authority may appoint one or more local full time or part time inspectors to assist the building official in the performance of his or her duties and in the enforcement of this code.

(b) Building Inspectors-1 shall have a minimum of three (3) years experience in general building construction and except for the length of experience required shall possess similar qualifications of a local building official as required by § 23-27.3-107.5, and shall possess an International Code Council (ICC) certification as a Residential Building Inspector. However, ICC certification as a Residential Building Inspector shall not be required in the case of a building inspector holding a current state certification prior to July 1, 2010. A Building Inspector-1 is responsible to enforce the provisions of the State Residential Code SBC-2.

Building Inspectors-2 shall have a minimum of three (3) years experience in general building construction, shall possess ICC certifications as a Residential Building Inspector and Commercial Building Inspector and shall possess similar qualifications of a local Building Official, as required by § 23-27.3-107.5. However, ICC certification as a Residential Building Inspector and a Commercial Building Inspector shall not be required in the case of a building inspector holding a current state certification prior to July 1, 2010. A Building Inspector- 2 is authorized to enforce the provisions of both the State Building Code SBC-1 and the State Residential Code SBC-2.

(2) Electrical inspectors shall have a minimum of five (5) years experience and a Rhode Island Class A or Class B electricians license.

(3) Mechanical inspectors shall have a minimum of five (5) years and a valid Rhode Island master pipe fitters I or journeyman contractors license.

(4) Plumbing inspectors shall have a minimum of five (5) years experience and a Rhode Island master or journeyman plumbers license.

(5) Mechanical and plumbing inspectors who have been enforcing either code prior to January 1, 1986, may continue to do so.

History of Section.

(P.L. 1976, ch. 256, § 1; P.L. 1985, ch. 162, § 1; P.L. 1989, ch. 179, § 1; P.L. 1989, ch. 190, § 1; P.L. 2010, ch. 303, § 1.)